

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 138836  
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 SP-02 /043 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:CSPRAGINS:TR  
APPROVED BY ARA/ECA:RWZIMMERMANN  
S/PRS:JMEDIROS

-----152014Z 081604 /62

P R 151911Z JUN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY  
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO  
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS STATE 138836

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PGOV, BR, US

SUBJECT:JUNE 4 PUERTO RICAN DAY EVENTS IN CHICAGO

REF: BRASILIA 4828

1. FOR EMBASSY'S BACKGROUND, FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF JUNE 4  
PUERTO RICAN DAY EVENTS IN CHICAGO, AND IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH  
HAS BEEN COMPILED FROM US PRESS ACCOUNTS:

2. EARLY SATURDAY JUNE 4, "PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY,"  
A BOMB EXPLODED IN CHICAGO'S COOK COUNTY BUILDING. A  
PUERTO RICAN TERRORIST GROUP, THE FALN, CLAIMED  
RESPONSIBILITY. (SIMILAR INCIDENTS TOOK PLACE DURING  
THE 1975 AND 1976 PUERTO RICAN FESTIVITIES.)

3. ALSO ON JUNE 4, DURING PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY  
CELEBRATIONS IN CHICAGO'S HUMBOLDT PARK, FIGHTING BROKE OUT  
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BETWEEN TWO GANGS, THE "LATIN KINGS" AND THE "SPANISH  
COBRAS." VIOLENCE SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE PREDOMINANTLY  
HISPANIC SECTOR OF NORTHWEST CHICAGO TO INCLUDE FIGHTS  
BETWEEN RESIDENTS AND POLICE, RIOTING, LOOTING AND BURNING.

THE POLICE FORCE WAS REPORTEDLY INADEQUATE TO QUELL THE  
DISTURBANCES BECAUSE MANY OFFICERS WERE ON DUTY AT A SMITH

FIELD ROCK CONCERT ATTENDED BY 70,000 TO 80,000 YOUTHS.

4. SPORADIC LOOTING AND VANDALISM CONTINUED SUNDAY, JUNE 5. DURING THE WEEKEND'S VIOLENCE, MORE THAN 100 PERSONS WERE INJURED INCLUDING 57 POLICE OFFICERS. TWO MEN WERE KILLED. ACCORDING TO NYTIMES ACCOUNT, "THE POLICE SAID THAT JULIO OSORIO, 26 YEARS OLD, FIRED A SHOT AT TWO OFFICERS, MISSING THEM BUT FATALLY WOUNDING RAPHAEL CRUZ, 25. THE OFFICERS SHOT MR. OSORIO, WHO LATER DIED AT A HOSPITAL." 154 PERSONS WERE ARRESTED AND FIRES LEFT 15 FAMILIES HOMELESS.

5. MONDAY, JUNE 6, CHICAGO'S ACTING MAYOR, MICHAEL A. BILANDIC (WHO HAS SINCE BEEN ELECTED) MET WITH PUERTO RICAN LEADERS. MOST OF THE COMMUNITY CHIEFS REPORTEDLY CRITICIZED THE CITY'S NEGLECT OF "A POOR COMMUNITY PLAGUED BY JOBLESSNESS; ESPECIALLY AMONG THE YOUNG, IN-ADEQUATE HOUSING, POOR EDUCATION AND STREET GANGS." ACT-ING MAYOR BILANDIC WAS SAID TO BE PLEASED WITH THE 20 MINUTE MEETING, COMMENTS "WE ALL AGREED WE WOULD WORK TOGETHER WITH AGENCIES OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT." TV -OVER-AGE, HOWEVER, INDICATED MANY PUERTO RICAN LEADERS REMAINED PESSIMISTIC ABOUT ACTING MAYOR'S WILLINGNESS TO HELP. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009